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about to enter. These meetings, it is justly supposed, were arranged between the parties by previously liberated women, whose contaminating influence upon the prisoners of their class is manifested in these lamentable results.

With certain classes of prisoners, such as relapsed felons and vagrants, some little increase in the severity of the discipline would have a wholesome effect. Indeed, it may perhaps be admitted as a postulate, that prison discipline should, at the least, be so severe as to deter every one who has once experienced it from committing offences for the express purpose of again entering the prison. Under present circumstances this is by no means the case. A vagrant admitted to me, a short time ago, that he wished to come into the jail for the sake of medical aid (there being, however, nothing very urgent in his case); and a woman is now awaiting her trial, who perpetrated her offence, she says, knowing that her committal would follow, and that she should be "better off" in prison than she was out of it.*

I cannot conclude this report without adverting to the necessity of something in the nature of a Refuge for the Destitute in several districts, which, upon a plan more extended than that of Liverpool, should admit the really destitute of every description until capable of being forwarded to their respective parishes, or provided with suitable employment. In this manufacturing district, the latter is attainable by those who are qualified by previous occupation, and whose characters are not very bad, with much more facility than is generally supposed.

[Mr. Clay has announced his intention to adopt the form of registry suggested by a Committee of the Statistical Society, which appeared in vol. i. page 177 of the Journal.]

Statistics of the Population of the Kingdom of Saxony, to December 1837, including an account of the Births, Deaths, and Marriages, compared with those of the Six preceding Years. Abstracted from the Publications of the Statistical Society of Saxony.† With Incidental and General Remarks. By W. R. DEVERELL, Esq.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, on the 18th January, 1839.]

THOUGH the total amount of the population of Saxony, to which the following particulars more especially relate, does not exceed that of the city and suburbs of London, the completeness and precision exhibited in its classification render the results deducible therefrom most valid for the statistician; for whose useful purposes, in forming average numbers and deducing general principles, it is at least as indispensably requisite that facts should be fully, exactly, and methodically reported, as that they should relate to numerous masses of individuals, and extensive periods of time. In the present instance, the observed and registered facts have

* The question of prison discipline is becoming of the greatest importance. The feeling against capital punishment appears to increase, and the parliamentary committee upon transportation, which has just closed its labours, recommend the discontinuance of that practice, upon grounds fully established by the evidence brought before it.

† *Mittheilungen des Statistischen Vereins für das Königreich Sachsen.* The fourth number contains the census of July 1832; the sixth that of December 1834; and the tenth that of December 1837.

been collected, classified, reduced, and generalized, in strict fulfilment of the conditions required in the procedure of the exact sciences, of which statistics may assuredly be considered as one, especially with regard to that department of its province to which the present documents relate, namely, Vital Statistics; implying investigations of numerical facts respecting the living and dying; thence deductions of the general laws or constants to which human life is subject, and developments of the physical and moral conditions required for its preservation and improvement.

The individual facts of this department of knowledge, though subject, like all others, to the modifications of circumstantial phenomena, are positive entities, having such essential similarity and uniformity as to admit of their being scientifically classified and estimated by the computations of arithmetic; and though much has been said and written upon the proper description of statistics, in consequence of the apparent difficulty of determining what particular facts (as positively or probably exerting important influence on the welfare of society) should be included in the statistical inventory, it may doubtless be asserted that, whatever be the questionable nature of any other classes of facts, those which relate to *population* are some of the peculiar, and indeed the primary subjects of statistical science; and therefore are they highly and generally important, if, as would appear beyond dispute, facts *are* statistical only inasmuch as they can be shewn to have a direct relation to the ostensible end for which social union is established—the greatest happiness of the greatest number; and that, all national and even local legislation can be just and equitable only as it proceeds upon the general average principles obtained from statistical documents.

Saxony, with a comparatively limited territory, possesses a great variety, not only of soil and climate, but of economical and manufacturing industry in every department of the arts of civilized life. It has, therefore, a peculiar claim to be regarded as a region for the prosecution of *normal* observations; the more so as during several years it has been exempted from war, dearth, pestilence, and other public calamities which occasion social confusion, and alter the natural standard average of mortality. With respect only to the single question of duration of life, the fact that, in Saxony, the proportion of annual deaths varies in different localities, from 1 in 19 to 1 in 65, sufficiently displays the important influence of particular circumstances, and justifies the degree of attention which the Statistical Society of that kingdom has bestowed upon the subject of population.

It may be well to remark here that, the Statistical Society of Saxony differs from several similar Associations in other countries, in being more directly connected with, and subservient to the purposes of, the State in which it is established; for, though all societies instituted for the collection of statistical facts are similar, as to the subjects and nature of their business, and are properly considered auxiliary, to the offices of the State, the Saxon Society more especially appears to constitute an important item in the political arrangements of that kingdom. In proof of which it is requisite only to instance the fact of its having performed the momentous task of collecting, arranging, and publishing,

at triennial periods, very elaborate and complete accounts of the whole national population. In connection with this remark may be cited a passage from a useful work, by an Honorary Foreign Member of the Statistical Society of London (*Theorie der Statistik, Von Count Gräberg af Hemsö*), in which it is stated that "All governments are now convinced of the importance of statistical studies, and are making them the object of their especial and incessant attention; and in order that the results obtained by the labours of private individuals may at once be made available for official purposes, many governments have promoted the formation of statistical societies, and furnished them with the requisite means and documents for the prosecution of their important enquiries. Indeed, it were needless," adds the author, "to prove that governments can and must direct statistical studies in the right course, for they are deeply interested in their progress, and must benefit or suffer as statistical exhibitions are right or wrong." From this work have been translated many of the general statements in the present paper respecting the average proportions of births, deaths, and marriages, facts which, in Europe, have been registered only since the age of Louis XIV.

The satisfactory care with which population enquiries are conducted in Saxony will be evident on considering the following numerous distinctions comprised in the adopted form for taking a census:—

- Number and names of civil districts, towns, villages.
- ," of houses, inhabited, uninhabited.
- ," of inhabitants, male, female, total, in each district, town, village, and detached residence.
- ," of ditto, within each of 12 different periods of age, as shewn in the following tables.
- ," of persons born blind, deaf and dumb.
- ," of children under the age of six years placed out to be nursed and kept for pay.
- ," of housekeepers, distinguishing the number of married couples, and married persons living separate.
- ," of unmarried persons, distinguishing the number of widowers and widows; the number divorced, male and female.
- ," of persons belonging to different religious denominations, distinguishing, first, under the appellation of Christians, the number of Evangelical Lutherans, Reformists (Calvinists), Catholics, and adherents of the Greek Church; and, secondly, the number of Jews.
- ," of town, and of country inhabitants. } under each of the
- ," of individuals composing the military* establishment } above divisions.
- ," of persons engaged in each profession, trade, and every other industrial occupation.

A supplementary account contains the number and kinds of factories, shops, and all establishments connected with trade, manufactures, commercial business, and the useful arts—of mills, steam-engines, and important machines; of establishments for public accommodation, namely, hotels, inns, coffee-houses, &c.

The total population of Saxony—

In 1832 was	1,558,153
1834 ,,	1,595,668
1837 ,,	1,652,114

* Including the families of soldiers, and all official persons connected with the army department.

The following are the total results of the census of 1837:—

CHIEF TOWNS.	HOUSES.		INHABITANTS.		
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Dresden	3,017	95	31,699	37,824	69,523
Leipzig	1,453	19	23,411	24,103	47,514
Chemnitz	1,163	60	11,308	10,937	22,265
Freiburg	1,671	39	5,501	5,945	11,446
WHOLE KINGDOM.					
141 Towns	49,615	2,225	258,261	275,042	533,303
3,502 Villages, &c.	163,242	2,773	532,115	570,772	1,102,887
Town and Country	212,857	4,998	790,376	845,814	1,636,190
Military and those therewith connected . . . . .	..	..	13,626	2,298	15,924
Total	212,857	4,998	804,002	848,112	1,652,114
NUMBER AT EACH AGE.				In 1000 Inhabitants the proportions were	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	In 1837	In 1834
From Day of Birth to completion of the 6th Year	126,380	128,779	255,159	154	155
From the 6th to the 14th Year	138,169	140,953	279,122	169	174
,, 14th , , 19th , ,	84,440	88,729	173,169	105	101
,, 19th , , 21st , ,	28,362	33,012	61,374	37	33
,, 21st , , 30th , ,	119,565	128,919	248,484	150	149
,, 30th , , 40th , ,	108,354	113,539	221,893	134	134
,, 40th , , 50th , ,	80,358	89,153	169,511	104	104
,, 50th , , 60th , ,	63,065	68,014	131,079	79	82
,, 60th , , 70th , ,	38,925	40,546	79,471	48	48
,, 70th , , 80th , ,	14,309	14,356	28,665	17	16
,, 80th , , 90th , ,	2,019	2,047	4,066	2	3
Above the 90th Year	56	65	121	..	..
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
Number Deaf and Dumb	665	514	1,179		
,, Born Blind	189	237	426		
Children under six Years of Age placed out to be nursed and kept for pay	1,576	1,591	3,167		
Number of Householders . . . . .	..	..	368,112		
,, Married Couples . . . . .	..	..	285,769		
,, Married Persons living separate	5,491	5,419	10,910		
,, Persons Unmarried	512,742	556,924	1,069,666		
Of whom are Widowed	26,280	60,655	86,935		
,, Divorced	1,497	2,398	3,895		

Number of each Religious Denomination.

Christians.—Evangelical Lutherans . . . 1,620,393

 ,, Calvinistic Reformists . . . 1,803

 ,, Catholics 28,998

 ,, Greek Church 72

Jews 848

From a comparison of the amount of the population, as found by the census of December 1837, with that of the preceding census of December 1834, it appears that, in the intermediate period of three years, an increase arose of 56,446 individuals, or 3.537 per cent.—3.709 per cent. of males, and 3.375 per cent. of females; which is for each year an increase of 18,815: that is 1.114 per cent. by additional births, and 0.065 by assumed immigration. This is the average rate of the “movement” of populations in central Europe. A recent statistical work, in two vols. 4to., on the Prussian District of Düsseldorf, shews that population, which in 1816 was 577,000, and in 1835, 720,760, to have steadily increased somewhat above 1 per cent. per annum by the excess of births over the deaths, throughout the intermediate period of 20 years. However, the disturbing effect of contingent circumstances causes the excess of births to range generally between $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 per cent. By an excess of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, a population is doubled in 139 years; by 1 per cent. in 70 years; by $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in $46\frac{1}{2}$ years; by 2 per cent. in 35 years; by $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in 28 years; and by 3 per cent. in $23\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The whole area of the kingdom of Saxony contains 271.676 geographical square miles, and the total number of the population in 1837 was 1,652,114. There is therefore, on an average, 6,081 persons to each geographical square mile, for 1837; and for 1834, 5,873. Excluding the military, it is for 1837, only 6,023; and for 1834, 5,817. In three years there appears then to have been an increase of 208 to the square mile; and, excluding the military, an increase of 206 *. The relative amount of the town and country inhabitants was, in 1837, as 1,000 of the former to 2,068 of the latter; and in 1834, as 1,000 to 2,108.

The proportion of males to females, in the whole population of 1837, including the military, was as 1,000 to 1,055; and, excluding the military, as 1,000 to 1,070. The proportion of males capable of bearing arms constitutes generally one-fifth part of the population.

With regard to the relative numbers of the different religious denominations, it appears that, on an average of the whole population, there are in 100,000 inhabitants—

Lutherans	•	•	•	•	•	98,081
Calvinistic Reformists	:	:	:	:	:	109
Catholics	•	•	•	•	•	1,755
Greek Church	•	•	•	•	•	4
Jews	•	•	•	•	•	51

Which, compared with the numbers in 1834, shews the increase of—

Lutherans	to be	35	in 1,000
Reformists	,	113	,
Catholics	,	28	,
Greek Church	,	200	,
Jews	,	2	,

* For the sake of comparison, it may here be stated that the whole area of the kingdom of Prussia contains 5,077.41 geographical square miles, and in 1837 the total population was 14,098,125; which is, on an average, 2,776 persons to each geographical square mile. In France, according to the last census of 1836, the number to each square mile (English) was, with the exclusion of Corsica, 166. In England, by the last census of 1831, there were 259 persons to the square mile; in Wales 108; in Ireland 243; and in Scotland 84.

Including the number of married persons living separate, and the military, there is something more than $\frac{7}{20}$ of the whole population married, or 342,565 in a million; that is, one marriage to 5.67 inhabitants.*

The number of children under the age of 14 years, in 1837, amounts to somewhat more than $\frac{1}{3}$ (in 1834 almost exactly $\frac{1}{3}$) of the whole population. So that, excluding the military, and the married persons living apart, there are, on an average, very nearly two children under 14 to each married couple; or to every 100 couples, 187 children under the age of 14.

With respect to the proportion of each sex among widowed persons living, it appears that, on an average in 100 of this class, there were, in 1837, 30 widowers, and 70 widows; and, in 1834, 29 widowers, and 71 widows.

The number of children placed out to be nursed and kept for pay (*Pensionnaire und Ziehkinder*) constitutes $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the children under the age of six years. In Dresden there are 192, and in Leipzig 113.

The number of persons deaf and dumb is to the whole population as 1 to 1,401. (For 1834 as 1 to 1,579, and for 1832 as 1 to 1,334.) And the number born blind is as 1 to 3,878. (For 1834 as 1 to 4,924, and for 1832 as 1 to 3,675).

The Saxon Statistical Society publishes annually a very elaborate tabulated abstract of the local registries of births, deaths, marriages, and number of religious communicants, throughout the kingdom. The numerical statements exhibited in these interesting documents are methodically arranged in a form containing the following heads:—

Births.

Name of civil district, and of chief cities.†

„ religious denomination.

Legitimate and illegitimate children, male and female.

Twin births, distinguishing pairs of males, females, and births of one of each sex.

Number born dead, male and female.

Number, male and female, born in each month throughout the year.

Total births, male, female.

Amount of annual increase or decrease in each district, chief city, and religious denomination.

Comparison of each total amount with those of preceding years.

Deaths.

Name of civil district, and of chief cities.

„ religious denomination.

Number of children born dead, legitimate, illegitimate, male, female.

„ deaths at each of 12 periods of age, as shewn in the following abstract.—Page 110.

Total deaths, male, female,

Number of deaths, male, female, of persons married, widowed, divorced.

„ „ „ in each month throughout the year.

Increase or decrease of the number of deaths compared with those of the preceding year.

* In Prussia the proportion of the number married, in 1837, was something more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the whole population, or 335,144 in a million.

† Of which the kingdom comprises four, namely, those of Dresden, Leipzig, Bautzen, and Zwickau.

Marriages.

Total number of marriages in the year.

Annual increase or decrease of marriages in each district and chief city.

Number of marriages of widowers and widows, and of persons divorced, male, female.

Comparison of each total with those of preceding years.

The following is the annual average number of births during the six years from 1832 to 1837:—

	Males.	Females.
Legitimate . . .	28,472	26,625
Illegitimate . . .	4,453	4,246

Twin births, pairs of males 293, of females 259; one of each sex 255.

Births of three at once 7; born dead, males 1,716, of females 1,248.

Total of births, males 32,925, of females 30,871; of males and females 63,796.

The average numbers born in each month, and the total births in 1837, will be found below, compared with the numbers of contemporaneous deaths.

A comparison of the number of children born in 1837, namely, 64,593, with the total number of inhabitants at the same time, namely, 1,652,114, shews the fact of the birth of one child to 25.57 inhabitants.

In 1837 the number born was greater by 13,529 than the number of those who died. In 1836 it was greater by 18,532.

The excess of males over females born was, in 1837, 5.27 per cent.; and, on an average of the six years, 1832-37, it was 6.24 per cent.; that is, there were born to 100 males 94.76 females, or to 100 females 105.56 males. Generally the annual proportion of births of males to females is as 21 to 20; and the proportion of deaths of male to female children as 27 to 25, so that in the period of maturity the sexes are nearly equal in number.

Of the whole number born in 1837 the proportion born dead was 4.61 per cent.; in 1836, 4.76 per cent.; and the average of the six years, 1832-37, was 4.64 per cent.

The number of twin births, in the same sexennial period, was 4,835; the number of births of 3 at once, 44; in the year 1833 there were 15. The proportion of male to female children is, in the twin births, as 100 to 91.86.

In 1837 the illegitimate children born were to the legitimate as 1 to 6.2; in 1836 as 1 to 6.15; and to the total number born as 1 to 7.2. On an average of the six years the proportion of illegitimate to the legitimate is as 1 to 6.33, and is 2.15ths of the whole number born. In the sexennial period, 1836-37, there were, on an average, 5.5 illegitimate children to 1,000 inhabitants.* The number of illegitimate births is found to be greatly augmented by the existence of well-supported institutions for foundlings; and a remarkable confirmation of this assertion is furnished in the city of Mayence, where the abolition of the foundling hospital has been directly followed by an important decrease of illegitimate births.

Considering the number of births, with regard to different months, it appears that the greatest number, 6,002, occurred in January; and the

* In Prussia, in 1837, there were born 518,392 legitimate children, and 39,501 illegitimate; the latter being to the former as 1 to 13. In France, according to the last census, the proportion of illegitimate in the whole numbers of births was, in the department of the Seine, 31.3 per cent., that is, nearly $\frac{1}{3}$.

least, 4,470, in November; and this remark is equally applicable to the average of the six years. Indeed, it is a fact, confirmed by all carefully kept registers, that the greatest numbers of births are found in the first months of the year.*

The following comparison of the total numbers of births and deaths in each of the six years, 1832-37, exhibits the ratio of their annual difference of amount:—

	BIRTHS.			DEATHS.			Total Excess of Births.	Excess of Males to Females.	Increase or Decrease in each successive Year of	
	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.			Births.	Deaths.
	31,101	29,182	60,283	24,449	22,799	47,298	12,983	1,919	1,700	.. ..
In 1832										
1833	32,355	30,444	62,799	25,838	24,265	50,103	12,696	1,911	1,573	+2,516 +2,805
1834	32,681	30,682	63,363	25,894	24,347	50,241	13,122	1,999	1,547	+ 664 + 138
1835	34,360	31,852	66,212	23,155	21,885	45,040	21,172	2,508	1,270	+2,849 -5,201
1836	33,882	31,643	65,525	24,552	22,441	46,993	18,532	2,239	2,111	- 687 +1,953
1837	33,171	31,422	64,593	26,481	24,583	51,064	13,429	1,749	1,898	- 932 +4,071
Annual Average of the 6 Years ..	32,925	30,871	63,796	25,069	23,337	48,456	15,323	2,054	1,683	

It hence appears that, on an average of six years, the annual numbers born are as 131·66 to 100 who die, and that the excess of deaths of males is, on the same average, 6·71 per cent.

Of the whole population in 1837 (1,652,114), the number who died in that year constituted more than $\frac{1}{32}$ part, or 3·09 per cent. In 1836 the proportion who died was $\frac{1}{35}$, or 2·87 per cent.

The number of children who, having escaped the perils of birth, died before the completion of their first year, was,—

In 1832	.. . . . .	31·5	per cent. of the whole number born.
1833	.. . . . .	33·4	,
1834	.. . . . .	36·2	,
1835	.. . . . .	34·4	,
1836	.. . . . .	35·2	,
1837	.. . . . .	33·28, or $\frac{1}{3}$,

Annual average of the 6 Years, 34. , ,

It is worthy of particular notice, that the mortality of children, from the age of 6 to 14, in 1837, as compared with that of 1832, exhibits a decrease of 50 per cent., and that the reduction is gradually continuous throughout the intervening period, thus:—

	Males.	Females.
In 1832	1,162	1,036
1833	1,089	1,059
1834	768	733
1835	608	621
1836	597	603
1837	553	546

* Dr. Guiette, of Brussels, having made some curious investigations respecting the influence of day and night on human births, has found that in 19 years, out of 5,448 births, 2,949 occurred in the night, and 2,499 in the day. That the greatest numbers were at 11 in the night (358); and at 2 in the night (304); while the least numbers were at 7 in the morning, and 3 in the afternoon.

Under all the other periods of age the fluctuation of mortality is slight, and often very nearly stationary, so that in the instance, from 6 to 14, the great amount of reduction would seem to indicate the agency of some powerful cause of improvement.

Of the 64,595 born in 1837, there were,—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate . . .	28,569	27,059	55,628
Illegitimate . . .	4,602	4,365	8,967

In the same year there died—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Legiti- mate.	Illegiti- mate.	Legiti- mate.	Illegiti- mate.	
At Birth	1,425	295	1,035	225	2,980
In the 1st Year	7,812	1,547	6,389	1,246	16,994
Between the 1st and 6th Years	2,895	289	2,719	329	6,232

The proportion of the numbers born dead to the whole amount of deaths is as follows:—

	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1832	5.9	1834	5.96
1833	5.5	1835	7.
Annual average of the six years			6.12 per cent.
1836		1837	6.63 5.83

In the whole number born dead, the proportion of males to females is as 100 to 72.73. The proportion of the number of illegitimate to legitimate children born has been shewn to have been as 1 to 6.2, or 16.13 per cent.; and with regard to the number of each class born dead, that of the illegitimate is to the legitimate as 1 to 4.73, that is, 21 per cent.; shewing a rate of mortality greater by 5 per cent. among the illegitimate. The deaths before the completion of the first year shew 1 of an illegitimate child to 5.08 legitimate; and from the first to the sixth year (commonly the first of school-going) 1 to 9.08. Of legitimate children the proportion born dead is 4.42 per cent., and of illegitimate 5.8 per cent.

The numbers born, and those who died, in each month, on an average of the six years, 1832-37, are as follows:—

	BORN.		DIED.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
January	2,943	2,776	2,188	2,027
February	2,703	2,555	2,264	2,210
March	2,851	2,684	2,421	2,268
April	2,720	2,546	2,429	2,221
May	2,746	2,568	2,353	2,211
June	2,639	2,457	1,929	1,774
July	2,791	2,560	1,902	1,710
August	2,753	2,557	1,999	1,817
September	2,818	2,618	1,907	1,779
October	2,738	2,602	1,849	1,746
November	2,589	2,445	1,879	1,780
December	2,654	2,503	1,949	1,844

The greatest mortality in 1832 was in March; the least mortality, in October.

„ „	1833	„ May ;	„ „	June.
„ „	1834	„ March ;	„ „	November.
„ „	1835	„ April ;	„ „	September.
„ „	1836	„ March ;	„ „	August.
„ „	1837	„ February ;	„ „	November.

The greatest proportion of deaths, in places having above 1,000 inhabitants, has been 1 to 18.5 persons. And here it may be remarked, that the statements exhibited in the works of some eminent writers that the ratio of mortality is always greater in the town than in the country population, is controverted by the Honorable Director of the Saxon Society, who says that, many of his own observations serve to prove the reverse. That the great advantages of pure air, athletic exercise, simple food, and exemption from habits of luxury, are often partially, if not wholly counteracted by the inferiority or deficiency of medical attendance in sickness, disregard of cleanliness, bad food, spirituous drinks, and excessive labour. That only in very large and densely populous cities the mortality exceeds the medium ratio; and that only in wealthy villages it falls below the medium: while throughout whole rural districts, where poverty and destitution prevail, the rate of mortality, instead of the general average of 1 in 34, is as high as 1 in 12. However, the present returns for Saxony exhibit results at variance with this assertion, for of the total number of deaths in 1837,—namely, 51,064,—18,070 occurred among the inhabitants of towns, comprising a population of 533,303; and 32,994 among inhabitants of villages and rural districts, comprehending a population of 1,102,887; shewing that the average ratio of town mortality was 3½ per cent., and that of the country scarcely 3 per cent. In England the town and country populations are not separately registered. The returns of the last census, in 1831, confuse the numbers of inhabitants of towns with those of the parishes of which they constitute a part, so as to prevent the possibility of discrimination; for, in many instances, the parishes are of great extent.

In general the proportion born dead is considerably less in the country than in towns, especially in large and densely-populous capitals.

As the foundation of the science of life measurement rests upon the observed relation of the dying to the living, in given intervals of age,* the following comparative table of the numbers living, and of those who died at each age, will doubtless be considered important; and it is proper to observe that, in constructing it from the Saxon documents, the actual numbers living at the intermediate of the three successive triennial enumerations already mentioned (that is, in 1834,) have been assumed as approximating with sufficient exactness to the average annual numbers living in each of the six years. It may be added that, this assumption, for the purpose of furnishing correlative points of comparison, is fully justified by the usual practice of actuaries and other professional persons possessing great experience and knowledge of the principles of vital Statistics.

* Life Tables, by T. R. Edmonds, Esq., B.A.

AGE.	Numbers Living in 1834, assumed as representing the Annual Average Numbers in each of the 6 Years, 1832-37.		Average Number of Deaths in each of the 6 Years, 1832-37.		Annual Average Number of Deaths to 100 Persons Living.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
From Birth to completion of 6th year . . .	122,788	124,222	12,153	10,259	9.90	8.26
From 6 to 14 years . . .	138,385	139,831	796	766	.57	.54
, 14 , , 19 , , .	78,207	82,386	422	403	.53	.48
, 19 , , 21 , , .	23,378	28,873				
, 21 , , 30 , , .	113,020	124,457	932*	1,009	.68	.65
, 30 , , 40 , , .	104,413	110,192	922	1,177	.88	1.06
, 40 , , 50 , , .	78,225	87,780	1,202	1,323	1.53	1.50
, 50 , , 60 , , .	63,345	67,555	1,885	1,919	2.95	2.83
, 60 , , 70 , , .	38,002	39,421	2,438	2,561	6.41	6.49
, 70 , , 80 , , .	13,153	13,394	1,904	1,993	14.47	14.91
, 80 , , 90 , , .	2,256	2,239	664	680	29.43	30.37
Beyond 90 , , .	72	74	35	44	48.61	59.45

In 1837, the proportion of marriages (13,546) to the whole population (165,214) was 1.64 per cent.; in 1836 it was 1.63 per cent.

The greatest proportion (1 to 116 inhabitants) was in the district of Bautzen, and the least (1 to 124) in the district of Dresden.

Of the 162 marriages of parties differing in religious profession, in 1837, 69 were marriages of Protestants with Catholics. In 1836, by the death of married persons the number of marriages dissolved was 10,273; in 1837, 11,856; still the number of married couples exhibited an increase amounting to 3,273.

YEARS.	MARRIAGES.		Marriages of		Marriages of Persons Divorced.	Number of Marriages in which the Parties were of different Religious Profession.	COMMUNICANTS.	
	Total.	Compared with preceding Years.					Total.	Compared with preceding Year.
	Widowers.	Widows.	Males.	Fem.				
1832	12,276	+ 564	1,925	878	158	149	313	1,648,371 + 61,954
1833	12,832	+ 556	1,923	913	169	130	162	1,628,615 - 19,756
1834	13,306	+ 474	2,139	1,066	182	165	165	1,639,929 + 61,314
1835	13,841	+ 535	2,299	1,070	212	174	154	1,656,977 - 32,952
1836	13,321	- 520	2,060	1,026	185	208	175	1,711,680 + 54,703
1837	13,546	+ 225	2,190	1,022	208	162	162	1,665,740 - 45,940
Annual Average of the 6 Years	13,187	..	2,074	996	186	165	189	1,666,885 ..

* In the registry of deaths the scale proceeds from 14 to 20, and thence to 30.

A general comparison of the registrations relating to Central Europe gives the following average results :—

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
In villages . .	1 to 23	1 to 40	1 to 115
Towns . .	1 , , 27	1 , , 30	1 , , 105
Large capitals	1 , , 31	1 , , 25	1 , , 113

The proportion of females who give birth to children is, to the whole number of females in the population, as 1 to 18; and among married women as 1 to 6.

In concluding this abstract Report of the labours of the Saxon Society, it is impossible not to remark that, were similar documents prepared in other nations with the same care and completeness, the results would furnish data for the development of various general principles of great interest and utility in the improvement of social science, as doubtless the frequent uniformity and coincidence of many population phenomena are truly assignable to established and general laws, a knowledge of which is obtainable only by careful observations and classification of all the effects—that is, the positive numerical facts, and their constant relations. At the same time it may be useful to notice the very perplexing difficulty of instituting comparisons of numerical facts, when the forms of observation and registration adopted in different investigations are not coincident in their points of time, and conditions of classification, all legitimate inference being of course impossible where the terms of comparison are not correspondent, and this is the case in several parts of the tables from which the present abstract is derived. For instance, the living are recorded at the ages "from 14 to 19," "19 to 21," and "21 to 30 :" while the scale of deaths proceeds from "14 to 20," and from "20 to 30."* The living also are distinguished into inhabitants of town and country, but in the record of deaths no such distinction is observed, though for the purpose of eliciting the different ratio of mortality of the town and country population it would offer a most interesting comparison. Neither do the returns contain the number of families to afford the means of ascertaining the average number of persons to each family, nor the number of paupers and persons insane. These, however, are defects which may in future be readily remedied; and doubtless the labours of the learned and zealous Director of the Saxon Statistical Society, Councillor Von Schlieben, and his honourable colleagues, can require no stronger incentive for the promotion of these desirable improvements than the full assurance of all such exertions being justly appreciated by many collaborators in England and other nations, where the Statistics of human life are studied with increasing attention, as mainly forming the exact elementary data from which all sound principles of social science can alone be deduced.

* In the Prussian circle of Dusseldorf the living are registered at regular decennial intervals, from 1 year to 90, while the deaths are registered at the ages of 1, 5, 14, 30, 50, 70, and 90.